

BPA Public Involvement

From: glenn.vanselow@pnwa.net
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Subject: Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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PNWA COMMENTS ON THE AMENDED SUMMER SPILL PROPOSAL Beginning with the first petitions for listing of salmon runs under the Endangered Species Act and our participation in Senator Mark Hatfield's Salmon Summit, PNWA has supported rebuilding salmon runs and we have supported doing so using cost-effective measures. We still do. When first proposed last year, we supported eliminating summer spill altogether. We still do. It is very expensive and has very limited biological benefit. Although we think more should be done, we do support the current amended proposal by BPA and the Corps. With this proposal, the agencies acknowledge that cost effectiveness is a factor in their decision process. We encourage the action agencies and the resource agencies to move farther down this path in the coming months and years. As we mark the passing of the \$6 billion milestone in the world's most expensive Endangered Species Act program, the region and the agencies need to understand that spending at the current funding level is not sustainable. Cost-effectiveness must become an increasingly important factor in evaluating not just the spill program, but the entire range of salmon recovery measures. PNWA is a regional association addressing federal and regional policies related to navigation and other transportation modes, energy, trade and natural resources. PNWA was established in 1934. Today, our membership includes over 110 businesses, public agencies, and individuals from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California. PNWA's members include ports, public and investor owned utilities, agriculture produces, forest products manufacturers, towboat companies, and steamship operators. We represent ports from Northern Puget Sound to the Northern California Coast and from the lower Columbia River to Lewiston, Idaho.